

United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: THE TREATMENT OF MEAT PRODUCTS

The specification of which

- a. ☐ is attached hereto
b. ☒ was filed on August 3, 1999 as application serial no. 09/368,452 and was amended on (if applicable) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and claimed in international no. filed and as amended on (if any), which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (attached hereto).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

- a. ☒ no such applications have been filed.
b. ☐ such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

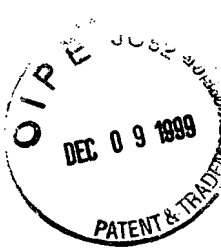
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)
09/137,242	20 August 1998	Pending

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Albrecht, John W.	Reg. No. 40,481
Anderson, Gregg I.	Reg. No. 28,828
Ansems, Gregory M.	Reg. No. 42,264
Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. 27,612
Black, Bruce E.	Reg. No. 41,622
Bruess, Steven C.	Reg. No. 34,130
Byrne, Linda M.	Reg. No. 32,404
Carlson, Alan G.	Reg. No. 25,959
Caspers, Philip P.	Reg. No. 33,227
Chiapetta, James R.	Reg. No. 39,634
Clifford, John A.	Reg. No. 30,247
Cochran, William W.	Reg. No. 26,652
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Daley, Dennis R.	Reg. No. 34,994
Dalglish, Leslie E.	Reg. No. 40,579
Daulton, Julie R.	Reg. No. 36,414
DeVries Smith, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 42,157
DiPietro, Mark J.	Reg. No. 28,707
Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. 20,187
Epp Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. 39,667
Glance, Robert J.	Reg. No. 40,620
Goggin, Matthew J.	Reg. No. 44,125
Golla, Charles E.	Reg. No. 26,896
Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. 38,472
Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223
Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804
Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165
Hillson, Randall A.	Reg. No. 31,838
Holzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. 42,668
Johnston, Scott W.	Reg. No. 39,721
Kadievitch, Natalie D.	Reg. No. 34,196
Kastelic, Joseph M.	Reg. No. 37,160
Kettelberger, Denise	Reg. No. 33,924
Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197
Kowalchyk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535
Kowalchyk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 36,848



Lacy, Paul E.
Larson, James A.
Liepa, Mara E.
Lindquist, Timothy A.
McDonald, Daniel W.
McIntyre, Iain A.
Mueller, Douglas P.
Pauly, Daniel M.
Phillips, John B.
Plunkett, Theodore
Pytel, Melissa J.
Reich, John C.
Reiland, Earl D.
Schmaltz, David G.
Schuman, Mark D.
Schumann, Michael D.
Scull, Timothy B.
Sebald, Gregory A.
Skoog, Mark T.
Soderberg, Richard
Storer, Shelley D.
Sumner, John P.
Sumners, John S.
Swenson, Erik G.
Tellekson, David K.
Trembath, Jon R.
Underhill, Albert L.
Vandenburgh, J. Derek
Welter, Paul A.
Wahl, John R.
Whipps, Brian
Wickham, J. Scot
Williams, Douglas J.
Witt, Jonelle
Xu, Min S.
Zeuli, Anthony R.

Reg. No. 38,946
Reg. No. 40,443
Reg. No. 40,066
Reg. No. 40,701
Reg. No. 32,044
Reg. No. 40,337
Reg. No. 30,300
Reg. No. 40,123
Reg. No. 37,206
Reg. No. 37,209
Reg. No. 41,512
Reg. No. 37,703
Reg. No. 25,767
Reg. No. 39,828
Reg. No. 31,197
Reg. No. 30,422
Reg. No. 42,137
Reg. No. 33,280
Reg. No. 40,178
Reg. No. P-43,352
Reg. No. P-45,135
Reg. No. 29,114
Reg. No. 24,216
Reg. No. P-45,147
Reg. No. 32,314
Reg. No. 38,344
Reg. No. 27,403
Reg. No. 32,179
Reg. No. 20,890
Reg. No. 33,044
Reg. No. 43,261
Reg. No. 41,376
Reg. No. 27,054
Reg. No. 41,980
Reg. No. 39,536
Reg. No. P-45,255


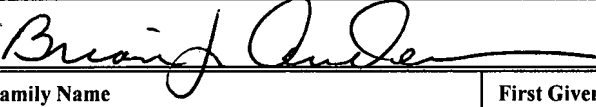
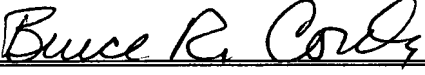


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I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C.
3100 Norwest Center
90 South Seventh Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402-4131

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name Gutzmann	First Given Name Timothy	Second Given Name A.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City Eagan	State or Foreign Country Minnesota	Country of Citizenship U.S.A.
1	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 616 Crimson Leaf Court	City Eagan	State & Zip Code/Country Minnesota 55123/U.S.A.
Signature of Inventor 201: 			Date: 9-28-99	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name Anderson	First Given Name Brian	Second Given Name J.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City Robbinsdale	State or Foreign Country Minnesota	Country of Citizenship U.S.A.
2	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 4170 Chowen Avenue North	City Robbinsdale	State & Zip Code/Country Minnesota 55422/U.S.A.
Signature of Inventor 202: 			Date: 9-28-99	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name Cords	First Given Name Bruce	Second Given Name R.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City Inver Grove Heights	State or Foreign Country Minnesota	Country of Citizenship U.S.A.
3	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 2893 96th Street East	City Inver Grove Heights	State & Zip Code/Country Minnesota 55077/U.S.A.
Signature of Inventor 203: 			Date: 9-28-99	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name Grab	First Given Name Lawrence	Second Given Name A.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City Woodbury	State or Foreign Country Minnesota	Country of Citizenship U.S.A.
4	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 9271 Duckwood Trail	City Woodbury	State & Zip Code/Country Minnesota 55125/U.S.A.
Signature of Inventor 204: 			Date: 9-28-99	
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name Richardson	First Given Name Edward	Second Given Name H.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City Columbia Heights	State or Foreign Country Minnesota	Country of Citizenship U.S.A.
5	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 4100 Monroe Street Northeast	City Columbia Heights	State & Zip Code/Country Minnesota 55421/U.S.A.
Signature of Inventor 205: 			Date: 9-28-99	

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)–(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

(ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) Each inventor named in the application:

(2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.



MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

United States Patent Application
COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

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Batzli, Brian H.	Reg. No. 32,960	Lindquist, Timothy A.	Reg. No. 40,701
Beard, John L.	Reg. No. 27,612	McDonald, Daniel W.	Reg. No. 32,044
Black, Bruce E.	Reg. No. 41,622	McIntyre, Iain A.	Reg. No. 40,337
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Edell, Robert T.	Reg. No. 20,187	Soderberg, Richard	Reg. No. P-43,352
Epp Ryan, Sandra	Reg. No. 39,667	Storer, Shelley D.	Reg. No. P-45,135
Glance, Robert J.	Reg. No. 40,620	Sumner, John P.	Reg. No. 29,114
Goggin, Matthew J.	Reg. No. 44,125	Sumners, John S.	Reg. No. 24,216
Golla, Charles E.	Reg. No. 26,896	Swenson, Erik G.	Reg. No. P-45,147
Gorman, Alan G.	Reg. No. 38,472	Tellekson, David K.	Reg. No. 32,314
Gould, John D.	Reg. No. 18,223	Trembath, Jon R.	Reg. No. 38,344
Gregson, Richard	Reg. No. 41,804	Underhill, Albert L.	Reg. No. 27,403
Gresens, John J.	Reg. No. 33,112	Vandenburgh, J. Derek	Reg. No. 32,179
Hamre, Curtis B.	Reg. No. 29,165	Welter, Paul A.	Reg. No. 20,890
Hillson, Randall A.	Reg. No. 31,838	Wahl, John R.	Reg. No. 33,044
Holzer, Jr., Richard J.	Reg. No. 42,668	Whipps, Brian	Reg. No. 43,261
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Kadievitch, Natalie D.	Reg. No. 34,196	Williams, Douglas J.	Reg. No. 27,054
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Knearl, Homer L.	Reg. No. 21,197	Zeuli, Anthony R.	Reg. No. P-45,255
Kowalchyk, Alan W.	Reg. No. 31,535		
Kowalchyk, Katherine M.	Reg. No. 36,848		

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C.
3100 Norwest Center
90 South Seventh Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402-4131

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name of Inventor	Family Name McKay	First Given Name Pamela	Second Given Name Reed
0	Residence & Citizenship	City B3000 Leuven	State or Foreign Country Belgium	Country of Citizenship U.S.A.
1	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 1 Brouwersstraat Bus 19	City B3000 Leuven	State & Zip Code/Country Belgium
Signature of Inventor 201: 			Date: <i>23 September 1999</i>	

§1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)–(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

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- or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
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 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

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- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
 - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
 - (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.